AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-15. (Canceled).

16. (New) A method for the treatment of hyperglycemia comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of formula (I):

$$R = \begin{cases} Y \\ R1 \\ R2 \end{cases} X$$

(I)

in which

R is –H; aryl or heteroaryl, mono, bicyclic or tricyclic, optionally substituted with one or more halogen groups, nitro, hydroxy, alkyl and alkoxy, optionally substituted with one or more halogen groups;

n is 0-3;

p is 0-1;

X is -OH, -O-alkyl C_1 - C_4 ;

R1 and R2, which may be the same or different, are selected from: -H; alkyl C_1 - C_5 , -COX;

Q is selected from: NH, O, S, -NHC(O)O-, NHC(O)NH-, -NHC(O)S-, -OC(O)NH-, -NHC(S)O-, -NHC(S)NH-,-C(O)NH-; and Y is S;

and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, racemic mixtures, single enantiomers, stereoisomers or geometric isomers, and tautomers.

- 17. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which R is an aryl or an aryl substituted with one or more halogen atoms, alkyl, alkoxy or haloalkyl, p is 1, n is 0, 1 or 2, and Q is oxygen.
- 18. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which R is methyl, methoxy or trifluoromethyl, nitro, mono- or di-alkylamine.
- 19. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which R is a heteroaryl containing nitrogen as heteroatom bound to the rest of the molecule via all the positions allowed and p is 1, n is 0, 1 or 2, and Q is oxygen.
 - 20. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which R is 1-indolyl or 1-carbazolyl.
- 21. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which the compound is selected from the group consisting of:
 - i. methyl 2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2195);
 - ii. 2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl-propanoic acid (ST2518);
 - iii. methyl 2-[4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST1929);
 - iv. methyl 2-[3-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2534);
 - v. methyl 2-[4-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2531);
 - vi. methyl 2-[3-(2-(carbazol-9-yl)ethoxy)phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2365);
 - vii. methyl 2-[4-(2-(carbazol-9-yl)ethoxy)phenyltho]iso-butyrate (ST2387);
 - viii. methyl 2-[4-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST1983);

- ix. methyl 2-[3-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2394);
 - x. methyl 2-[3-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]iso-butyrate (ST2167);
- xi. methyl 2-[4-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2011).
- xii. 2-[4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl-propanoic acid (ST2505);
- xiii. 2-[3-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid

(ST2653);

- xiv. 2-[4-(2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy)phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2652);
 - xv. 2-[3-(2-(carbazol-9-yl)ethoxy)phenylthio]-2-methyl propanoic acid (ST2618);
 - xvi. 2-[4-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl propanoic acid (ST2622):
 - xvii. 2-[3-[2-(1-indolyl)ethoxy]phenyltho]-2-methyl propanoic acid (ST2651);
 - xviii. 2-[3-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl-propanoic acid (ST2609);
 - xix. 2-[4-[2-(2-naphthyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methyl-propanoic acid (ST2036);
 - xx. methyl 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-methoxy)indolil)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2577);
 - xxi. methyl 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-benziloxy)indolil)etoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2562);
 - xxii. methyl 2-[3-[5-(4-nitrophenyl)furfuryloxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2501);
 - xxiii. 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-methoxy)indolil)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutiric acid (ST2733);
- xxiv. 2-[4-[2-(1-(5-benzyloxy)indolil)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2740); and
 - xxv. 2-methyl-2-[3-[5-(4-nitrophenyl)furfuryloxy]phenylthio]propanoic acid (ST2753).
- 22. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which the compound is methyl 2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]isobutyrate (ST2195).

- 23. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which the compound is 2-[3-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethoxy]phenylthio]-2-methylpropanoic acid (ST2518).
- 24. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which the method treats diabetes, the microvascular complications of diabetes, or the macrovascular complications of diabetes.
 - 25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the diabetes is type 2 diabetes.
- 26. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the microvascular complication of diabetes is diabetic retinopathy, diabetic neuropathy or diabetic nephropathy.
- 27. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the macrovascular complication is peripheral vasculopathy, myocardial infarction or stroke.
- 28. (New) The method according to claim 16 in which the method treats syndrome X, polycystic ovary syndrome, obesity, or a form of insulin resistance.
- 29. (New) The method according to claim 16 in which the method treats fatty liver or NASH (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis) associated with hyperglycemia.
- 30. (New) The method of claim 29 in which the fatty liver is NAFLD (non-alcoholic fatty liver disease).
- 31. (New) The method of claim 16, for the treatment of hypertension, for the primary and secondary prevention of coronary heart disease (CHD) associated with hyperglycemia.
- 32. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the hyperglycemia is associated with hyperlipidaemia.
- 33. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which the compound is administered orally or parenterally.
- 34. (New) The method according to claim 16, in which the formula (I) compound is administered at a dose ranging from 0.01 to 400 mg.

GIANNESSI et al. Appl. No. 10/539,833 November 21, 2006

35. (New) The method according to claim 34 in which the formula (I) compound is administered at a dose ranging from 0.1 to 200 mg.